

McMaster University
Faculty of Engineering
Joint Health and Safety Committee Minutes

Wednesday, April 13, 2011

9:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

JHE A114

Management Member	Department	Attendance
Ian Bruce (Co-Chair)	ECE	Present
Kostas Apostolou	BTech	Regrets
Carm Vespi	Alumni	Absent
Doug Keller (Certified Member)	Management Cert. Member	Present
Ridha Khedri	Computing and Software	Absent
Ghani Razaqpur	Civil Engineering	Present
Marek Niewczas	Materials Science	Present
Prashant Mhaskar	Chemical Engineering	Present
Stephen Tullis	Mechanical Engineering	Present
Qiyin Fang	Engineering Physics	Present
Robert Fleisig	Engineering 1	Present
Vladimir Mahalec	SEP	Absent
Guo, Yiping	Civil	Absent

Worker Member	Department	Attendance
John Nakamura (Co-Chair)	Computing and Software	Present
Anna Robertson	Civil	Present
Doris Stevanovic	CEDT	Present
Dulcie Amaral	SEP	Present
Elizabeth Takacs	MMRI	Present
Jeanne Norris	Engineering 1	Present
Jim McLaren (Certified Member)	Mechanical	Regrets
Ed McCaffery	Materials Science	Present
Justyna Derkach (Certified Member)	Chemical	Present
Kent Wheeler	Civil	Present
Maneesh Khanna	MMRI	Absent
Michelle LePalud	CUPE	Absent
Frances Lasowski	CUPE	Regrets
Omar Danta	BTech	Present
Peter Jonasson	Engineering Physics	Present
Tyler Ackland	Electrical & Computing Engineering	Present

Consultants	Department	Attendance
Dane DeMan	EOHSS	Present

ISSUES FOR CENTRAL TO ADDRESS	Action Items
No Rollerblading Signs posted campus wide, to prevent students from rollerblading in buildings.	

1. Minutes & Announcements

<p>Minutes Approval:</p> <p>Dr. Ian Bruce, Management Co-Chair: _____</p> <p>John Nakamura, Worker Co-Chair: _____</p> <p>Minor changes were documented to the March 2011 minutes. The minutes were then approved by D. Stevanovic and seconded by E. McCaffery.</p>	<p>Approved March 2011 minutes were submitted to EOHSS on April 18, 2011</p>
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2. Business Arising

<p>Inspection Summary Sheets – Please hand in Engineering Physics is still working on their inspections summary sheets and will hand in shortly.</p> <p>H&S Representative – General Engineering J. Nakamura stated that F. Lasowski will do inspections with him for the General Engineering area. D. Stevanovic asked whether or not she had been named by the union. J. Nakamura will look into this.</p>	
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3. New Business

There was no new business to report	
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4. Incident Reports

<p>1. A student in Biomedical Engineering was taking a bottle of Ethyl Ether out of the carrier when the bottle broke. The student was instructed to perform this task in a fume hood with the help from another person.</p> <p>2. Engineering Physics reported a mercury spill in the Nuclear Research Building. It was caused when old mercury diffusion pumps that were in storage were being moved. Not all the pumps were labeled with a “Caution Mercury” sign. EOHSS cleaned up the spill with the mercury vacuum and sulphur. EPR was contacted to provide a quote to remove the pumps from storage.</p> <p>3. During an ice storm, there was an accumulation of ice and snow on the building over hang in the John Hodgins Engineering Building. A large chunk of ice/snow fell on the shoulder of an individual while exiting the building. Security was called, but they were dealing with this problem in multiple buildings. The individual stood by the area and guarded the entrance for 10 minutes until the pieces had fallen off.</p>	
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5. Safety Reports

Area	Report Submitted
B Tech	Yes
CAS	Yes
Chemical Engineering	Yes
Civil Engineering	No
ECE	No
Engineering 1	No
Engineering Physics and CEDT	Yes
General Engineering	No
Materials Science and Engineering	No
Mechanical Engineering	Yes
MMRI	No
SEP	No

Engineering Physics inspected labs over in ETB. One faculty office had moving boxes lying on the floor, which have yet to be unpacked. He was instructed to remove the boxes as soon as possible. One lab also had paper in the flammables cabinet. Instructions were given to have them removed.

A Grad Office (ETB 529), was also inspected, and found that lights would go off, and the motion sensor was not properly working. Students were also complaining about the refrigerator in that office smelling bad. D. Amaral stated that she will look into who owns this fridge.

Inspection findings of ETB also found that the doors of the building are very hard to open. This has been reported to Facility Services.

BTECH inspected the basement of ETB and found that it was very dark in the basement, and the lights are down to the emergency lighting. The project coordinator is aware of this problem, and is looking into getting this problem fixed.

Chemical Engineering inspected a couple of labs. A spill kit was not located, as well as there were some high voltage stickers missing on electrophoresis equipment. Some minor housekeeping issues were also reported.

CAS inspected their labs and most were okay. The only exception was a lab that had a spool of lead solder which is being looked into.

6. Central Committee Minutes/Incidents

No items needed to be discussed.	
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7. Other Business

Engineering Physics informed the committee that there is a designated substance posted online in the engineering member's area for Lead blocks and also an SOP for a pool boiling experiment. Please have a look at this for next meeting.	
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D. Stevanovic asked the committee whether or not the committee and/or university is subject to any liabilities, if any injuries occur from experiments or using substances, since the committee reviews the SOP's, and are posted on the internet.	
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D. Keller stated that the committee reviews each SOP, and gives suggestions for best practices. It's the committee's responsibility to just review them, and it's the best the committee can do.	
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P. Jonasson told the committee about another run in with a student in the elevator with rollerblades on. He kindly asked the student to remove his rollerblades and put shoes on, as it is a safety hazard. When the elevator	
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<p>opened, the student skated off. P. Jonasson asked the committee if they had any ideas on how to prevent this, or if signs could be posted.</p> <p>D. DeMan suggested reporting this issue to Security. A. Robertson stated that although signs could be posted, it's likely the students won't obey or see the signage. G. Razaqpur said that signs would be a good idea, and might help. If signs aren't posted, then people won't know, but if signs are posted, then it might help to some extent.</p> <p>It was suggested that a ban for no rollerblading in buildings be made a campus wide, and that this would be a good issue for the Central Committee to address, and for signage to be made and posted in all entrances and exits of the buildings. The committee agreed that this will be forwarded to Central. It was motioned by P. Jonasson, and seconded by D. Keller.</p> <p>D. Stevanovic asked the committee if there was a way for new contractors to know if there is any asbestos located in buildings or rooms, as there is a new research engineer that will be involved in some renovations on campus. D. DeMan informed her that there is an asbestos inventory that can be seen before work is even started.</p> <p>D. DeMan informed the committee about the NAOSH week which is running the first week of May. More information can be found at http://www.workingatmcmaster.ca/eohss/prevention/naosh/index.php</p>	
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Motion to adjourn made by J. Derkach and seconded by Doris Stevanovic finishing at 10:05 a.m.

NEXT MEETING: Wednesday, May 11, 2011 in JHE A114.

PLEASE NOTE: If you cannot attend this meeting please send regrets to Lindsay Martin at lmartin@mcmaster.ca